

WILL THE SHOPMEN TAKE THE RAISE OR COURT DISASTER WITH A STRIKE?

PRESIDENT WILSON'S proposal to representatives of the six railroad shop crafts that the wages of shopmen be increased about four cents an hour on the basis of ten hours' pay for eight hours' work will be received with mixed emotions by the American public. Those who have been earnest in declaring that the shop crafts were already highly paid and should receive no increase will be disappointed at the president's suggestion, while others who expressed sympathy with the shopmen's demands will be disappointed also, but because the full 25 percent increase asked by the demand has not been accorded to by Mr. Wilson. Perhaps a body of public sentiment larger than either of those above named will feel some relief that the suggested increase is no more than the original demands. The shopmen accept it instead of holding out for their original demands. There is no certainty, however, that the president's offer will be accepted by the railroaders. It merely has been submitted to them by their representatives for acceptance or rejection.

While the increase is to be four cents an hour—larger in some cases such as the raise of men getting 58 cents an hour to 67 cents—it actually will be much greater than that because of the provision that the men are to get ten hours' pay for eight hours' work. So the base will be \$8.70. While dispatchers do not work on the basis of time, it probably would be computed at the rate of time and a half, making a dollar an hour. So, if the men work ten hours instead of eight, their pay will be about \$8.70 a day if they accept the president's offer. This rate is specified to apply to "certain classes of shopmen, car inspectors and repairmen."

President Wilson told the committee of 100 representing the shop crafts that any greater increase now would greatly increase the cost of living, and, therefore, would be inadvisable.

Any increase at all, he might have added, means an increase in the cost of living for the shopmen and everybody else. The difference is that the shopmen would get some of it back in the form of higher pay, a recompense denied the rest of us.

An increase in the pay of these crafts means an increase in the deficit under which most of the railroads are operating and which must be made up out of the pockets of the people, either by still more lofty freight rates, which automatically would force the cost of food, clothing, medicines, machinery and everything else to new high levels, or by taxation. That much must be said so that the public may have a clear understanding of what a wage raise for railroad workers will mean. It will mean that a good many millions of dollars additional must come out of the pockets of someone and that someone will be all of us.

On the other hand, it is plain that the country must either become reconciled to paying the shopmen more—whether or not they are already adequately paid—or face the consequences of a nationwide strike with all the business paralysis and physical privation that that would entail. President Wilson had that to think about and a first refusal of his offer leads to the belief that he felt forced to tender the shopmen as much of an increase as he could and at the same time to let off as easily as possible the public who must pay the bill.

This ought to be the final word, so far as the president is concerned. If it is, and the shopmen reject it and try to paralyze the country with a nationwide strike, they will find it very hard to get much support. Most other people are having too close a run in making ends meet not to be impatient with anything that threatens to make living still harder. The public may be willing, under the circumstances, to take on an extra load such as an increase of the shopmen's wages would mean, but that will be about all. If the railroad men try to force the issue through a general strike, they will be courting reprisals upon themselves and indirectly upon all organized labor. In threatening this matter out, it is to be hoped that a sense of accommodation and fair play may govern.

There are two Josephus Daniels in the navy but the army is worrying along with only one Neyron D. Baker.

Little Interviews

High School Night Classes Doing Excellent Service Motorists Must Obey Road Laws Or Pay Heavy Penalties

THE night school classes at the high school have certainly accomplished a great work," said superintendent of schools A. H. Hughey, "and this year those in charge of the night school are going to accomplish even greater work. By the addition of several classes that have not been given heretofore. One of the most useful classes given at night is the instruction of Spanish. These classes, of which there are several, are always well filled. When the car line is interrupted by the school, the students that attend will show an increase in the number of cars that will be used to make the classes more desirable."

"Motorists in El Paso should put their minds where they can be seen as the law requires," said El Paso, assistant county attorney. "The law requires that the seals be placed on the front end in a conspicuous place. Another violation we have noted is that motorists are driving past street cars without the proper walk would certainly make the classes more desirable."

"Several murder trials are scheduled for the fall session of the El Paso district court," said El Paso, assistant county attorney. "Two of these cases have been in the courts of El Paso county for four or five years and have been the source of much trouble here and in other parts of the state. In addition to the noted cases, there are several other murder cases booked for trial."

"During a recent trip I made I saw a large number of walnut logs piled along the right of way," said El Paso, assistant county attorney. "They are weathering badly and in danger of becoming completely spoiled. Seeking some information concerning them I found they had been cut by the government, but that if they were not used within a certain time they would be burned with other refuse. No one seemed to know whether they belonged to the government or to the man who cut them. Walnut is getting scarce in the United States, or at least the occasional purchasers of walnut furniture have been led to believe that it is and allowing good walnut logs to rot seems like a little short of a good thing. Perhaps it can't be helped, but I wonder what such highly desirable material is permitted to waste without being expected for study of only ordinary value."

"In spite of the fact that we will have to distribute the new free text books for the first time, high school classes will start their actual classes very much on time this year," said El Paso, principal of the high school. "This is due to the fact that the greater majority of the pupils who will attend the school next year have already registered and will have just what to do on the first day of school. It is due to the fact that the teachers will be so informed."

"The landlord isn't exactly bringing down the house," said El Paso, assistant county attorney. "The idea of the food price problem should be to take the profit out of the ear and shake the profit out of him. Pittsburgh Sun."

With hog sellings at 24 cents on the hoof there is many a sick pig that isn't worth a sow's ear—London (Ontario) Free Press.

It seems another blow at the food supply of the world when prohibition steps in and blights the wild oats crop of coming generations—New York Morning Telegraph.

If Mexico could only be made safe, it might become a great winter resort for the people of the United States. It is a place of safety and started away in the proud consciousness of having been a kindred, he himself discovered that there had been a discovery—Kansas City Star.

President Wilson says the world today hangs on America and Jack Harlow, of the Beloit Gazette, is instantly reminded of "Painting Bertha," the celebrated police court character who used to paint on the street and after some kindhearted man had caught him in his own trap, helped him to a place of safety and started away in the proud consciousness of having been a kindred, he himself discovered that there had been a discovery—Kansas City Star.

When I'd impart a moral lesson I spring it many times; and so there's no wonder, I'm confessing, in these uplifting rhymes. The sage old tale must be repeated in life and catch and run, or my intent would be defeated, for men forget so soon. These repetitions will not hurt you if they should call to mind some good old time substantial virtue that you have left behind. It seems to me all men are wasting their own time and the time of others. I see them haunting along the porthouse road. A year or two, when war was raging, we sailed wealth away; and talked, with faces worn and aging, about the rainy day. But when the beauty war was over, with all its stress and din, we kicked around like mules in clover, and blew our money in. And ever harder we are blowing our little shining store; we laugh like clumps to see it going, and then blow in some more. And people say that I am raving, and should take in my sign, when I insist on weekly saving, on putting coin in bribe. We're spending cash like drunken sailors, our o'ry's a disgrace; and while money's there, to make your assets thrive; and out of every hard-earned twenty you ought to save a five.

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Only A Palliative, Not A Cure.

TWO more dashes have been made by United States troops across the border into Mexico in pursuit of bandits, one with partial success and the other without success. Col. Langhorne's men succeeded in shuffling off a few Mexican brigades and if it turns out that Renteria was one of them, the incident will be worth more, in our eyes, than otherwise, for it was Renteria who seized the American aviators and held them for ransom.

The fact not to be lost sight of is that these incursions into Mexico are of value only as punishment for crimes already committed. They have not so far had the effect of preventing crime. Bandits are still thick in the Big Bend country. They will continue numerous until the Carranza government finds itself able to put enough troops in the interior to hunt them down or until the United States goes in with enough men and goes far enough to clean them out. And then it must police the country thoroughly enough to keep it clear of the lawless element.

In the meantime and with the limitations now imposed on our military forces, these "hot trail" chases are the only means we have of impressing on Mexican bandits that if they kill, rob or commit other crimes against citizens or property of the United States, they will be obliged immediately afterward to put lots of distance between themselves and the border or take a chance of sudden death.

This partial triumph emphasizes the need for every community to go just as far toward feeding itself as it possibly can by encouraging home growth of fruits and vegetables. We can't do much here toward providing ourselves with fish and oysters, but we are fairly well supplied with vegetables. There was strong insistence during the war that every locality should be as nearly self-supporting agriculturally as possible, and some of them out here in the southwest accomplished wonders. It's a good target at which to keep shooting all the time.

Mr. Shillady, who went to Austin, started something relative to negroes and was finished quickly, is the sort of a man who might be expected to parade in orange robes on next St. Patrick's day.

Those who went away are having the fun of telling about the good times they had on vacation and those who didn't go are having the fun of counting up the money they didn't spend.

The trouble is that so many of the fellows who rave most loudly about the high cost of living insist on wearing \$15 silk shirts.

British are trading German sailors soap in exchange for battle flags. The war's over but the Germans are still in for a cleaning.

When the war correspondents start drifting into El Paso it begins to seem like old times.

A man's best things are nearest him. Lie close about his feet. —Lord Houghton.

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Balancing - - - - - By Hal Coffman



When A Man Doesn't Like To Go To Movies, Maybe There Is A Reason

THERE WAS A MAN. WHO DIDN'T like movies. AND HE quarreled. WHEN HIS wife went. AND HE said it was foolish. TO WASTE time. ON HOT nights. BUT ONE night. WHEN THE family was away. HE WENT by himself. AND HE found it fine. FOR THERE was a big feature. OF SEVERAL reels. AND A lot of comics. AND SOME cartoons. AND SOME beautiful scenery. AND HE sat next. TO TWO pretty girls. AND JUST in front of him. WERE TWO more. AND IN the crowd. HE SAW an old friend. AND AFTER the show. THEY HAD a cream soda. AND TALKED over. THE LONG ago. AND MADE a date to meet again. AND MET again. AND SAW some pictures. AND THE man who hated pictures. GOT TO liking them.

A Line O' Cheer Each Day O' The Year

I hope I'm not a Phoebe. And yet I'm glad that I am not. Nor is that feeling vain. I'm quite aware of what I'm not. Of how few virtues I have got. And how unworthy is my lot. I'm not at all in self-immersed. Or with a large conceit account. I'm glad I'm me. Since being so I know the worst. (Copyright, 1919, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

One Thing Led To Another - - - - - By F. Oppen



..Patter And Chatter..

By S. E. KISER
If You're Out of Luck Today.

WHY give up to dark forebodings or be sad? If the cook has spoiled the coffee, do not weep! By to-night you may have reason to be glad. By to-morrow all your doubts may disappear. You may think your way is rough just because your street is tough. But if your teeth are good, be full of cheer.

IF another wins the prize you tried to get. Don't let your spirit tumble with a chagrin. Remember there are other prizes yet. There is more milk than was in the broken mug. When a rooster that is rude gets the bus the bird pursued. The bird proceeds to chase another bug.

THERE are always other fishes in the sea. And always other chickens on the perch. No matter how despondent you may be. There are pleasures to be found if you will search. There are mules everywhere, most of them are left on the curb. As the charmer who has left you in lurch.

THE money you have spent will not return. You can't bring back the past by being sad. But the future may have profit you can earn. And sweeter praise than any you have had. You're mistaken if you think that the world is on the blink. Because you're out of luck to-day, my lad.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. WHY is it that there are so few old maids among negro women?
A. One explanation given for the infrequency of unmarried negro women is that marriage among negroes usually does not carry the same burden to the man that it does among whites. Negro women when married, usually continue to be self-supporting.

Q. Does General Pershing speak French and Spanish?
A. General Pershing learned Spanish in the Philippines. When he was in France he did not know French, but he studied assiduously, and in six weeks he was holding conferences with French officers without the use of an interpreter. In a year he was a good French linguist.

Q. What kind of wood absorbs the least water, and what kind absorbs water most quickly?
A. Lignum vitae, the hardest wood known, is the most impervious to water. Of our domestic woods, oak and ash withstand water best. Cypress wood absorbs the water most quickly.

Q. What does the Indian name "Pocahontas" mean?
A. Pocahontas signifies "a stream between two hills."

Q. What is a leading question?
A. A leading question is one that suggests the answer to the person questioned. It is against the rules of court proceedings for a counsel to ask a witness leading questions, except in cross-examination. "Were you at the house of Mr. Jones on Tuesday night?"

Q. How large is the vocabulary of the average person?
A. In daily intercourse, the vocabulary of the average person seldom exceeds 2,500 words. That of an uneducated person usually consists of less than 800 words.

Q. What is the lowest temperature recorded?
A. The lowest temperature ever recorded was at Verkhoyansk, Siberia, January 15, 1893. The thermometer stood at ninety degrees and a fraction below zero. The ground in this part of Siberia freezes to a depth of one hundred feet and never entirely thaws even in summer.

Q. What is a proverb?
A. The name proverb is given to an old-sawed saying. It is a short, pithy statement of a truth or a piece of wisdom. It is a saying that has been passed down from generation to generation.

Are You Superstitious?

By TIMOTHY BURCH
A NEW PROPHECY.

The king of Montenegro and the queen of Rumania he added, the figure of the king of Rumania, which was the old English term. It was used because the elephant was said to make a noise like a trumpet.

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Love Pat Costs George a Five Spot

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 27.—George Foley was in court charged with administering a "love pat" to the fair cheek of Miss Mamie Stickfort, his fiancée. Foley told the judge it was only a lover's "pat," but Miss Stickfort said it hurt. The "pat" cost Foley 15 and costs.

Little Chris

WHILE Little Chris was at Clondorf, his task was to carry in the wood every night and it soon became dreary. He let his mother know it was about the last thing in life that he had any use for.

One day, while he was at the Lodge, he met Miss Jane Pedes, of Houston. When he returned home, he said:

"Mother, that girl at the Lodge, she is beautiful, she has her hair so pretty. I like her and I'd even like to carry in wood for her."

EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE. THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND THAT EVIL SHALL BE THOROUGHLY UNDOING.

H. B. Slater, editor and controlling power, has directed The Herald for 21 years. A. C. Wilmeth is Manager and G. A. Martin is Managing Editor.

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The only standard for the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.

AN INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPER—The El Paso Herald was established in March, 1881. The El Paso Herald is published daily except on Sundays, public holidays and days of mourning. It is published at the El Paso Herald Building, 100 North El Paso Street, El Paso, Texas. Subscription price, \$2.00 per year in advance. Single copies, 5 cents.

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION—Superior exclusive features and complete news report by Associated Press, United Press, and other reliable sources covering Arizona, New Mexico, West Texas, Mexico, Washington, D. C. and New York. Entered at the Postoffice in El Paso, Texas, as Second Class Matter.

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